

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. MURIEL
SARGENT NORTH

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 4, 2002

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a beloved member of our community in northern New Jersey—Mrs. Muriel Sargent North, who celebrated her 100th birthday on August 31, 2002.

For a full century, Muriel has demonstrated a sincere commitment to promoting education. After graduating from Wheaton College, she worked as a school teacher in New Hampshire before settling in Ridgewood to raise a family with her husband, Ernest "Hap" North. In New Jersey, Muriel served as a member of the College Club of Ridgewood, a charitable organization that seeks to expand opportunities for advanced education by offering need-based grant and interest-free loan programs to students. Her involvement in the Club, which is composed of women who are graduates of four year colleges and universities, led to her election as president, a position she held from 1949 to 1951.

Muriel is an outstanding example of the type of person who makes Bergen County such a wonderful place. An exemplary citizen, during the Second World War Muriel assisted the country in the war effort by participating in the American Women's Volunteer Service. As an active member of St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church and the local Wheaton College Club, Muriel donated her time to support the activities of these worthy groups. In addition, Muriel served as a leader in the community Girl Scouts chapter.

Full of energy and with a spirit of adventure, Muriel's enthusiasm is truly contagious. Even at the age of 100, she remains active in the Heath Village Community, participating in many of the group's planned trips and outings. Her hard work and assistance in organizing the Heath Village Craft Fair have helped to make the event a tremendous success.

It is an honor to recognize Muriel Sargent North today for her 100 incredible years of service to her fellow citizens and her generous spirit. Muriel's outlook on life is a wonderful example for us all. Bergen County is truly fortunate to have her as a member of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Muriel Sargent North on her milestone 100th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN YORKO

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 4, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a good friend and a wonderful person, John Yorko. John was honored on August 21st in my hometown of Flint, Michigan by his friends, and former co-workers for his dedicated service to the United Auto Workers and its membership.

John started working at the Fisher Body 1 plant on February 2, 1934. He joined the CIO

the next year and in 1936 he participated in the historic Sit Down Strike. He was inside the plant until the strike ended on February 11, 1937 with an agreement between the union and General Motors. John's career as a lifelong advocate for working men and women was born in that fateful event.

Shortly thereafter he was elected as an alternate committeeman and served in that capacity until the plant was converted to World War II production. During the war he worked in the aluminum foundry at Buick, building the Allison airplane engine. He served as a Local 599 committeeman for the duration of the war and returned to Fisher Body in 1946. He remained at Fisher Body for the next forty years and was elected to numerous committees and groups culminating in his repeated election as President of Local 581. John served as that Local's president more times than any other individual. From there he was elevated to President of Region 1C. He worked tirelessly on statewide and national committees for the United Auto Workers to bring about tolerable working conditions, equitable pay, and a humane environment for the workers of our country.

On October 1, 1974 he retired from Fisher Body with 40.8 years of service but his union career was just getting its second wind. He organized the Flint Area Retired Workers Council in 1978 and served as its president for 22 years. His work with the United Auto Workers retirees led him to one of his greatest achievements. Instrumental in compiling a written record of the Flint Sit Down Strike in 1987 for its 50th Anniversary, John is recognized by the community as the historian who captured the memories of that event for future generations. He took the recollections of the men and women who acted with courage and boldness in 1936, and ensured that their words and actions will live forever. Our children and grandchildren will be able to learn about the valor of these individuals who changed our world forever. Our debt to him is immeasurable.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise today and pay tribute to one of the great men. John Yorko's humility, compassion, and forthrightness have inspired many to follow in his footsteps. I am proud to call him my friend.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE OF REVEREND MARVIN WILLIAMS

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 4, 2002

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Reverend Marvin Williams' devotion to the Christ's First Presbyterian Church of Hempstead.

Reverend Williams has an admirable background. He has an undergraduate degree from Old Dominion University, and Master of Divinity degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center. Williams expects to receive a Master of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University in December 2002, and anticipates earning a Doctorate of Philosophy degree in the area of Biblical Studies in December 2003, after successful completion of his dissertation project.

The Reverend has touched many lives through his ministering. Over the past 16

years, he has served in varying capacities, including chaplain in the United States Air Force Reserve, Director of Christian Education at the Brookhaven Church in Nashville, Tennessee, and adjunct professor at Nyack College. His service in the pastorate has included the Renaissance Church of Chattanooga, Tennessee; the Roseville Church of Newark, New Jersey; and the North Church of Manhattan, New York.

Reverend Williams has ministered to Christ's First and the surrounding community for the past 8 years. Word of his wisdom and strong belief spread quickly, and the church rapidly expanded to include a large number of congregants. His preaching reached a global level through the Worldwide Ministries Division of the Presbyterian Church (USA), an organization that distributed his sermons in Switzerland, Portugal, Spain, Chile, Argentina and Uruguay.

Our community was lucky to have Reverend Williams in our midst for the past 8 years. His sermons and lectures have taught us a great deal about God, charity, the church and our community. We wish him well in his future endeavors, and we will miss him greatly.

THE EXTENT OF CORPORATE GREED

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 4, 2002

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, for weeks we have heard of the apparently boundless greed of the leaders of some of America's largest corporations—greed that has led them to ignore the retirement needs of their own employees and devastate their pension funds, slash their retiree health benefits, mislead their own investors and stockholders, lie to public regulators, and cheat taxpayers.

That greed has taken the form of unconscionable salaries and benefits, grotesque retirement benefits (even as employee retirees were being deprived of their life savings), cashing out weakening stocks (even as they encouraged employees to invest more in the same depreciating stocks), preposterous insider loans, and other types of executive compensation that financed a lifestyle of multi-million dollar homes and other lavish displays of wealth.

As Arianna Huffington has recently pointed out, we might read the numbers that describe the greed of these corporate criminals, but the numbers are simply beyond comprehension. Ms. Huffington has thoughtfully calculated some comparisons to help us appreciate the extent of the greed.

Take, for example, the practice of corporations making astronomical—and usually unsecured—loans of tens or even hundreds of millions of dollars to their executives: loans there is no realistic expectation they will repay, and loans which certainly are not being offered to other employees of the corporations. I recently introduced legislation, H.R. 5048, prohibiting such loans in excess of \$50,000, a version of which was incorporated into the recently enacted accounting reform legislation thanks to the initiative of Senator CHARLES S. SCHUMER of New York.